

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 964

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to commend Senator Tommy Kilby for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee and the 12th Senatorial District.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Senator Tommy Kilby is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Senator Tommy Kilby's illustrious career in the Senate will come to an end at the adjournment sine die of the 105th General Assembly, as he has announced his retirement from this august body; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Kilby has, for many years, been a prominent and highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of Morgan County, an emerging economic force in the rapidly growing East Tennessee region; he has served his constituents ably in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, the good people of the 12th Senatorial District, including Campbell, Fentress, Morgan, Rhea, Roane, and Scott counties, evinced their great faith in the political and governmental capabilities of Senator Tommy Kilby by electing him as their representative to the Tennessee Senate, a position in which he has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious tenure in the Senate, Tommy Kilby has been prominent as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience; and

WHEREAS, Senator Tommy Kilby has been a dynamic and aggressive participant in the legislative process and earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues for the outstanding contributions he made as Chairman of the Senate Environment, Conservation, and Tourism

Committee, Vice Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee, and member of the Lottery Oversight Committee; and

WHEREAS, he has also served with professionalism and proficiency as Secretary and Treasurer of the Senate Democratic Caucus, Secretary of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and a member of the Senate Transportation Committee and Senate Government Operations Committee; and

WHEREAS, a 1982 graduate of Oakdale High School, Tommy Kilby earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Management from Tusculum College; and

WHEREAS, he nobly accepted the calling of public service at the tender age of eighteen when he was elected Morgan County Commissioner, a position in which he rendered sterling service from 1982 until 1990; and

WHEREAS, distinguishing himself in the realm of politics with his heartfelt and proficient service, Senator Kilby was elected Morgan County Executive in 1994, and was subsequently reelected to an unprecedented second term; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of citizenship, Tommy Kilby is a valuable contributor to many civic, professional, and governmental organizations; in addition, he has served with distinction as a member and Vice Chairman of the East Tennessee Development District and East Tennessee Human Resource Agency and offered his expertise as a member of the Board of Directors of the Morgan County Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Senator Kilby has been honored numerous times for his exceptional leadership and acumen; he was hailed as the *Morgan County News* Best Elected Official for 2001-2002, received the Democratic and Republican Bipartisan Leadership Honor, and proudly accepted the East Tennessee Chapter of the American Society of Public Administrators' Excellence in Public Administration Award in 1997; and

WHEREAS, always eschewing the gridlock of partisan politics, this singular gentleman was honored as Legislator of the Year by the East Tennessee Development District in 2003, the State Opticians Association in 2004, the AARP in 2004, and the State Register of Deeds Association in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Senator Kilby has dedicated his career away from the General Assembly to the real estate profession; he also served as Executive Director of the Morgan County Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Kilby is an active and devout member of Williams Chapel Baptist Church, which he has served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Senator Kilby is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Rachel Kilby, his daughter, Latisha Kilby, and his stepsons, Tyler and Noah Harris; and

WHEREAS, Senator Tommy Kilby is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized as he departs the State Capitol to pursue a different journey; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Senator Tommy Kilby for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee and for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of the 12th Senatorial District as a member of this Body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend to Tommy Kilby our best wishes for much success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.